



See page 112

NIKKO GARDEN A BIT OF JAPAN IN ANCHORAGE

by David Reamer



More than perhaps any family, the Kimuras are intrinsically tied to Anchorage history, from the highest booms to the lowest shames. In 1880, Yusuke "Harry" Kimura was born in Nagasaki, Japan. Wanting to see more of the world, he left home at age 13. In 1908, he immigrated to the United



States, and in 1913 he married Katsuyo Yamasaki. They were running a restaurant in Seattle when they heard of the new Alaska boomtown, Anchorage. Harry and Katsuyo moved here in 1916. He opened the first Asian restaurant in town, the Chop Suey House, and she ran a laundry operation, which evolved into Snow White Laundry. Two of their children opened the first cold storage facility in Anchorage while still teenagers.

Everyone knew the Kimuras, but when World War II arrived, all those years here -- they were as "pioneer" as any other family in town -- matter little. The night after Japanese forces attacked Pearl Harbor, the FBI raided the Kimura home, seized many of their possessions, and sent Harry to a detention center at Fort Richardson. In the darkest of coincidences, one of his children, George, was there for his basic training. As part of MP duty, George had to guard the building containing his father. Decades later, George could smile when he said, "My friends couldn't figure out why my dad was in the stockade, and I was carrying an M-1 rifle."

In 1942, the rest of the Kimura family, other than George, were also arrested. During World War II, the United States forcibly relocated and interned more than 100,000 residents of Japanese descent. The Kimuras spent most of the war at an internment camp in Idaho before returning to Alaska, where they struggled to recover their losses and pay substantial back taxes.

In 1946, the family reopened the Chop Suey House as the Golden Pheasant Café on D Street between Fourth and Fifth Avenues. Two of Harry and Katsuyo's children became prominent artists, photographer Sam and painter William. Sam spent many years as a commercial photographer in New York before returning to teach at the University of Alaska Anchorage, where an exhibition gallery is named after him. As an added bit of trivia, his wife, Joan, designed the Anchorage city flag.



Harry died in 1957 while visiting Tokyo. By then, Katsuyo spent much of her time as an unofficial, if very regular, goodwill ambassador. More often than not, she met Asian arrivals at the Anchorage International Airport and guided them on their Alaska experience. In 1971, the Emperor of Japan awarded her the Zuiho Sho, Sixth Order of Sacred Treasure in recognition of her service.



Zuiho Sho
Sixth Order of Sacred Treasure

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

We would like to introduce Mr. David Reamer. Mr. Reamer is co-author of the 2022 book *Black Lives in Alaska* and 2023 co-Alaska Historian of the Year. He writes weekly for the Anchorage Daily News, daily on social media, and periodically elsewhere. He has graciously consented to allow us to use some of his articles that relate to token issuers. We are very pleased to be included in his "periodically" elsewhere.

Justin Farrell passed through Fairbanks this summer. He collects challenge coins and has provided some that he found on his travels. The challenge coin from Alcan Port of Entry is stunning. See page 113.

On eBay, finally some good tokens to report on! Circle, Haines, Sitka, Tenakee and Tolovana lead the list. And the first complete ARRC set seen on eBay in a long time (at least one where the opening bid was not in the ozone). A maverick, The Bank, possibly from Anchorage sold for \$1,000. J.D. Williams is currently researching this.

Included with this issue are the Alaska items of our October 18 auction. Those who receive this by email will receive the full auction. If you only get the printed version and would like the full auction, please let us know as soon as possible (or send us an email and get it really quick).

It has been chaos here with the metal prices exploding. I normally have no problem finding time for the newsletter. This month was different, and I really had to force myself to finish it.

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PRICES REALIZED

Selected prices realized from eBay:



(Anchorage?), The Bank, Reed & Dahl 25¢	1,000.00BIN
Barter Island, Club Mother Bear, 50¢ drink	20.00BIN
Chitina, Nevada Bar, 12½¢, B-4a	26.00
Circle, Collins & Strait, 10¢, B-1a	280.00
Cordova, Alaskan Hotel, 12½¢, B-2a	11.83
Haines, Heller & Co., 25¢, B-7b	906.00
Hoonah, Hoonah Pkg. Co., 5¢, B-1a	5.50
Hoonah, Hoonah Pkg. Co., 10¢, B-1b	10.19
Juneau, Imperial Pool Parlor, 5¢, B-30a	6.83
Kenai, Flash Tax, 10¢, B-T1a	7.28
Ketchikan, Abercrombie's, 2¢, B-1a	6.50
Ketchikan, Pioneer Pool Hall, T&M, \$1, B-46c	10.50
Ketchikan, Pioneer Pool Room, 10¢, B-47a	6.83
Ketchikan, Quality Bakery, 1 sm lf, B-48a	21.00
McCarthy, Golden Hotel, 25¢, B-2b	9.99OB
Nenana, Ghezzi, 25¢, B-3a	30.00
Palmer, ARRC, 10¢, B-1c	174.95OB
Palmer, ARRC, complete set B-a 1-h	1,884.00
Sitka, Fisherman's Cafe, 10¢, B-0a	207.50
Tenakee, Tillicum Club, 6¼¢, B-5a	272.00
Tolovana, Martin, 25¢, B-1a	664.32
Valdez, Copper Block Buf., \$1, B-4cII	OB1,500.00BOA
(Whitehorse), BC/Yukon Masonic, B-5c	37.00
Klondike Charm	125.00

OB = Opening Bid; NB = No Bid; RL = relist; R = Reserve; RNM = Reserve Not Met; W = withdrawn BIN = Buy it now; BOA = Best Offer Accepted; DNS = Did Not Sell; SUP = sold, unknown price. FTR = see For the Record.

EXCURSION INLET TOKENS

There is an article about Excursion Inlet starting on page 115, but I did not have room on those pages to give a brief description of the Astoria & Puget Sound Canning Co. Glacier Cannery tokens. Most seen are in near mint state condition, possibly placing them post WWII before the fire in 1948.

These tokens are a bit unique in that the five lower denomination (5¢ to \$1) used the same obverse die. Each token was a different shape. Only the \$5 was larger in size and could not use the same die.

Another interesting fact is that some tokens are counterstamped. Some 5¢, 10¢ and 25¢ are counterstamped with a "K". Some of the \$1 tokens are counterstamped with an "S". The reason for this is unknown.

NIKKO GARDEN, CONT.

George managed the Snow White Laundry before selling the business. He surveyed the Anchorage landscape for opportunities and decided the time was right for an upscale Japanese restaurant. Years later, he said, "People here in Anchorage were having steaks, chicken, roast beef, and a limited variety of food then. I thought Japanese food and tempura would be a change."

On April 10, 1966, he opened Nikko Garden near the southern terminus of Spenard Road. The interior was divided into Western and Japanese sections, plus a cocktail lounge (Bamboo Room). In the former, there were chairs, tables silverware, and a menu containing standard American fare. A rock garden stream ran through the space.



Nikko Garden postcard

The Japanese section consisted of seven rooms built in Japan, shipped to Alaska, and reassembled in Anchorage. On entering the rooms, patrons removed their shoes and were offered traditional Japanese sandals. There were low tables, chopsticks, and authentic Japanese food that were new to many locals.

Nikko Garden was nothing less than a portal to another world, a gateway somehow located in humble Spenard. Outside the doors was the city of Anchorage, surrounded by natural wonders but sometimes limited urban appeal. Inside was high-end cuisine, legendary food for the generations fortunate enough to eat there.

In 1970, Willis Decker of Anchorage won a "Millionaire for a Day" contest from First Federal Savings and Loan, which was launching a new location on Dimond Boulevard. As the contest name suggests,

Decker and his wife lived a life of luxury and celebrity for a single day. The prizes included an engraved silver tray and a check for \$164.39, one day's interest on a million dollars. A chauffeur drove them around town as they were pampered, celebrated, and even appeared on local television. And to close out the day, there was no other option than a champagne dinner at Nikko Garden. No-where else in town would have been better suited the contest theme.

The restaurant was also a pillar for the growing Japanese community in town. The Kimuras often imported staff from Japan and assisted them toward citizenship. Similarly, the restaurant was a can't-miss destination for any Japanese visitors. In 1967, the Kumagai Gumi-sponsored baseball team toured Alaska, winning that year's Midnight Sun Game in Fairbanks. The climax of their visit was dinner at Nikko Garden.

Unfortunately, all good things end, all glory eventually fades. On March 31, 1979, a refrigeration motor on a cooler inside the restaurant seized and sparked, igniting the insulation. From there the fire spread to the ceiling before racing through the building. The blaze lasted for



An announcement from Anchorage restaurant Nikko Garden in the April 27, 1979, edition of the Anchorage Daily Times.

Anchorage Daily Times, April 27, 1979.

NIKKO GARDEN, CONT.

four hours before fire fighters could bring it under control. No one was hurt, but the business was gone, a crushing blow to the family. They soon sold the property but the burnt-out building remained derelict for another decade, a visible scar for what they and the city had lost. When it was finally cleared, a McDonald's was built on the site, a very modern transition.

Two years after the fire, George's son Roger reopened the Nikko Gardens in the Denali Towers North, on Denali Street near Fireweed Lane. To state the obvious, the fifth floor of an office building lacked the charm of the original handcrafted location. The restaurant had returned, but it was not the same, something the owner openly acknowledged. "It's really not authentic," Roger said. There are no Japanese carpenters left to build the old way, even in Japan. They're all going the American way.

The customers also failed to show up in the same numbers. The restaurant declared bankruptcy in 1987 and closed for good in February 1988. The debris from the original Nikko Gardens lasted longer than the second iteration, as crews began clearing that site in late March 1988.

ORIENTAL GARDENS



Another Asian restaurant met a fiery end. Founded by Hugh Bradley and his Japanese wife Kazuko, the Oriental Gardens on the Old Seward Highway with its big red-roofed pagoda had been a landmark for 27 years.

Sometime after midnight on May 31, 1996, a fire started in an upstairs kitchen that reduced the north wing to a pile of smoking rubble. Eventually four stations responded to the fire with 13 pieces of equipment. The fire was out of control and orders were given to evacuate the building. A city bulldozer pulled down the charred remains of the north wing so the fire fighters could wet down the remains.

A 33mm brass drink token was issued to celebrate the Alaska Purchase Centennial in 1967.

HIROHITO VISIT MEDAL



On September 26, 1971, Emperor Hirohito of Japan briefly met with President Richard Nixon at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage. Nixon had made a tour of Montana, Oregon, and then flew to Anchorage to greet Emperor Hirohito. Hirohito's plane was on the ground for an hour and forty minutes.



Nixon noted that Hirohito was "the first reigning monarch in Japan's long history to step on foreign soil." The Japanese monarchy was at the time, and still is, the oldest continuous ruling family in the world.

Upon departing Alaska, the Emperor continued on to Britain, Belgium, West Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, France and Switzerland.

CHALLENGE COINS



Justin Farrell, a Certified First Responder Counselor from Vancouver, Washington stopped in the store in August. Among other things, he was collecting/exchanging challenge coins with first responders. He sent photos of a few that he picked up. Sizes are not known. All are shown at about 39mm.



U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Alcan, AK Port of Entry. Here is the reason everyone should get the PDF via email. The printed black and white newsletter does not do this justice. This piece is stunning in blues, greens, yellow and white.



North Pole Police Department. Light blue, dark blue, yellow, green and white.

North Star Volunteer Fire Department, 45 years, since 1975. Blue, yellow and white (at the top of the next column).

Canada Border Services Agency, Pacific Region, Vancouver International Airport. Red, white and blue



on dull silver. Going back into Canada, the agent did not have a challenge coins for the Alaska Highway Post. He was on temporary duty at the border and only had is challenge coin from Vancouver. Justin was obviously disappointed that there was not a challenge coin specific to the post.



Royal Canadian Mount Police, Whitehorse Detachment, "M" Division. Light blue, white and black. The rapids that looked like white horses gave Whitehorse its name!

GAMBLING HOUSES AT FAIRBANKS

Nome Tri-Weekly Nugget, January 18, 1906.

George Butler, at the Tanana and Alton Grown and Chadwick, at the Eagle, have the only gambling resorts. The games are fairly well patronized but the stakes are not large, like those for which the sports contested in Dawson in the heyday of gambling here.

GRUENING, ALASKA

The “town” of Gruening was the brain-child of Paul Costa. It was to be the center of growth for the North Road (now the Kenai Spur Highway). He envisioned a thriving community in the area.

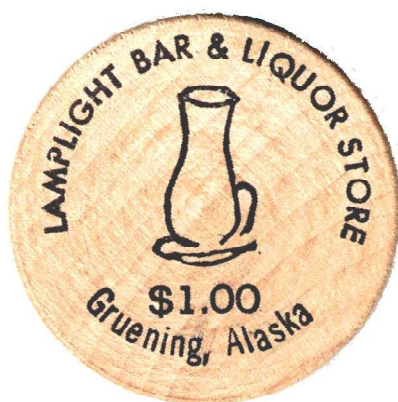
Costa purchased land and constructed the Lamplight Bar & Liquor Store. But that was not enough!

About 1966, Costa and Ron Mika purchased 10 acres of land across the road from the Lamplight Bar. They had the land cleared and built a log building in the center of the property. This was to become Gruening’s first post office.

Only problem was that the Post Office did not see the need at that time for a post office, and it was against Post Office policy to name a post office after a living person.

The Cheechako News of April 15, 1966, stated that plans were in the works for a restaurant, grocery store and a two-stall Chevron gas station.

In 1967, Costa allowed people to stay in the “post office” and it burned down. Costa deeded the land over to Mika. Costa sold the Lamplight Bar,



and it was also destroyed in a fire in 1971.

In 2009, Mika still owned the townsite, returned to a natural state.

Is the wooden dollar below the envisioned Chevron gas station?



KID’S LITERACY FARMER’S MARKET

A childrens’ literacy fair was held outside the Noel Wein Library on July 22.

Sponsors included several area farms and greenhouses and the Fairbanks Food Bank.

Literacy activities were provided by FNSB School District, Fairbanks Children’s Museum, North Star Imagination Library and others.

After completing tasks at the booths, the children were given “Kindness Coins,” and they were “spent” at the vendors booths for fresh vegetables, seed packets or newly harvested peonies.



The Kindness Coins are plastic, 1.5 inches in diameter, and are available on Amazon in multiple colors (gold, silver copper, purple, etc). with gold and silver coatings.

EXCURSION INLET



Alaska Daily Empire (Juneau), Oct. 1, 1917. AN ALASKAN CANNERY IS TOTAL LOSS FROM FLAMES

The Astoria and Puget Sound cannery at Excursion Inlet was entirely destroyed by fire early yesterday morning. The loss is estimated at about \$300,000, as 40,000 cases of canned salmon were lost in addition to the cannery buildings, warehouses, net storage house and large quantities of equipment and supplies.

J.C.F. Edwards, superintendent of the cannery, arrived from there this morning on one of the cannery tenders and at once wired the details of the loss of the cannery to the owners.

When seen this morning Mr. Edwards said that the fire started in the boiler room, at 7:30 yesterday morning, exact cause unknown, and that when discovered had gained considerable headway. Every possible means was used by the cannery to combat the flames, but with the headway already gained, and fanned by a heavy southeast gale which was raging at the time, building after building went up in smoke in spite of the best efforts of those fighting the blaze. Within less than two hours the entire plant was consumed.

The destroyed cannery was built in 1906 and contained three lines of canning machinery. It was rated with a capacity of 90,000 cases. This season 95,000 cases had been packed, and 55,000 had already been shipped south. On account of the inability to secure boats to move the pack about 40,000 cases were left at the cannery, most of which was already labeled and boxed. It is estimated that the salmon destroyed was worth more

than \$250,000 alone, not counting the cost of buildings, machinery and equipment lost.

Mr. Edwards stated this morning that the cannery will be rebuilt and be in readiness for operation next spring, if machinery and material can be secured, as far as he knows. He has no advices from the owners of the plant as yet.

Daily Alaska Empire (Juneau), Aug. 1, 1919. DISTILLER FINED \$200 FOR MAKING MOON- SHINE WHISKY

Taken on a charge of manufacturing intoxicating liquor, Dr. T. Shomia, arrested at the Astoria and Puget Sound Packing Company at Excursion Inlet yesterday by Deputy Marshal J.W. Combs was fined \$200 in the Commissioner's Court this morning after pleading guilty to the charge against him.

When found at Excursion Inlet Shomia's still was in operation, according to Mr. Combs, who had been called there because of the disturbances which had been caused by the Jap's illicit whiskey. Mr. Combs who had been patrolling for pirates, brought Shomia to Juneau yesterday afternoon on the Pilgrim.

Arraigned this morning, the Japanese doctor pleaded guilty and was fined \$200. As he had more than \$300 with him, he paid the fine in cash.

It is said that Shomia had been manufacturing whiskey for some time, and that he had had his customers drunk for the last week or two, when, because of the disturbances which resulted from their debauch, aid was sought from the federal authorities.

Daily Alaska Empire (Juneau), Oct. 21, 1943. The Guy F. Atkinson Company that has been construct- ing the project at Excursion Inlet....

A secret port in Alaska!

Daily Alaska Empire (Juneau), June 29, 1945. Army Post at Excursion Inlet to Be Dismantled by German Prisoners of War

An \$18,000,000 Army Port, secreted in an Alaskan Fjord and used only a year, will be dismantled for salvage this summer by 700 German prisoners of war, Col. Conrad P. Hardy, Seattle District Army Engineer, announces.

EXCURSION INLET, CONT.



The Colonel said the project was authorized in July, 1942 by Western Defense Command to provide a trans-shipment point where barges from the United States could transfer military supplies to Kodiak and Aleutian Island installations.



The terminal was located in Excursion Inlet, off Icy Straits...Construction began August 3, 1942 and the plant was in use in November, 1943.

The 630-acre facility was declared surplus to the War Department needs and assigned to the Pacific Division engineer for disposal October 26, 1944.

The prisoners of war were obtained for the work to save manpower in the Pacific Northwest, reported Colonel Hardy. An advance group of 100 will reach Excursion Inlet early in July, followed later in the month by the remainder, he said.

The terminal was built to accommodate nine ocean-going vessels, six barges, two ammunition ships and two tankers.

Daily Alaska Empire (Juneau), July 20, 1945.
GERMAN POW IS FUGITIVE FROM EX. INLET CAMP

Residents of this area were today asked to be on look-

out for a fugitive German prisoner of war; Arnold Blumenstein, 21, who escaped last evening from Excursion Inlet, where several hundred captured German soldiers are engaged in dismantling former Army installations.

Daily Alaska Empire (Juneau), July 21, 1945.
FUGITIVE NAZI FROM EX. INLET AGAIN CAPTIVE

Escaped Prisoner of War Is Re-taken by Army Patrol Last Night.

Arnold Blumenstein...was retaken at 10 o'clock last night by Army patrols at that base...no details as to how the capture was made or regarding the condition of the fugitive after his abruptly ended adventure in that rugged Southeast Alaskan wilderness area.

Nome Nugget, April 14, 1948.

Fire Destroys Juneau Cannery

Juneau -- Fire which destroyed the Astoria & Puget Sound Canning Company cannery 50 miles west of here Monday was out today except for some blazes in piling.

The Coast Guard cutter WACHUSETTS stood by at the site yesterday to fight any possible future outbreak of flame.

The blaze destroyed five buildings in all and the dock. The other buildings were three warehouses and the cable shed.

Daily Alaska Empire (Juneau) Aug. 10, 1948.

EXCURSION INLET MAY BE REBUILT

Nick Bez in Southeast Alaska Reports on Cannery Operations

Whether or not his company will rebuild the Excursion Inlet cannery recently acquired by the Columbia River Packers Association from Astoria and Puget Sound Packing Company will depend upon the fish run in the area this year and on the outlook for future runs. Nick Bez, chairman of the board of the CRPA said in Juneau Sunday.

The Excursion Inlet plant was completely destroyed by fire last spring. Fish from Excursion Inlet will be canned by the Bez cannery at Todd this season. If there is any indication that the salmon run may increase, Bez hopes to rebuild Excursion Inlet.

TWO OLD TIME COLLECTORS

Here we have two letters, one side of correspondence between Eugene Rudolph and Guy Woodings. Both were contributors to *Roubles to Statehood* by Fernald and McDowell, 1965



Fairbanks, Alaska.
May, 9, 1964

Dear Guy:

Quick note now and enclosing a full set of recent discovery of tokens which are very attractive. I managed to get ahold of a few sets for you and the others in Anchorage and Southeastern but to date, no other sets are in circulation. The two bar owners are in a fight now from what I've heard and don't know when or if the balance will be issued. Never know about some of these things. Anyway, I'd like to let you know that I'm in bad need of a full set of J.W. Evans of Koyukuk especially the 25¢ and \$1.00 pieces. Can you help me out?

Hope to see you in Palmer soon.

Sincerely,

Eugene

Eugene M. Rudolph
Box 751
College, Alaska.



Run onto this attractive paper token here in Fairbanks this morning and am sending you one for your collection. Hope you can send me some of the tokens that I need as listed in my last letter. How about it. Ha.

Gene

Eugene Rudolph was born in Waseca, Minn. in 1932. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1950-1954 and was stationed at Elmendorf AFB and at Elgin Field during the Korean War. Following his discharge he returned to Alaska. In 1960, he was appointed to the Alaska State Troopers and served in Fairbanks, Nome and Anchorage. Based on this information, we can guess that he was stationed in Fairbanks in 1964 when the first letter was written.

In 1969, he was in Anchorage with the rank of Inspector. He was tasked with escorting Princess Margaret and her husband, Lord Snowden, who stopped in Anchorage on their way to Tokyo. "She's real sweet," said Inspector Gene Rudolph of the Alaska State Troopers, who drove them around on their tour.

ITEMS FOR SALE FROM THE ARTICLES



EXCURSION INLET

Set of 4: 5¢ to 50¢	60.00
5¢ only	5.00
10¢ only	15.00
As above, with "K" counterstamp	50.00
25¢ only, with "K" counterstamp	50.00
\$1 with "S" Counterstamp	150.00



FAIRBANKS



Billiken Lounge, green on green paper, shown actual size on page 118, with letter.	10.00
As above, no letter.	5.00



Gold Rush Saloon & Silver Dollar Bar & Cafe, set of 5, shown actual size on page 117, with letter	25.00
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PRICES ARE PLUS POSTAGE. WE WILL SHIP ON APPROVAL AND YOU CAN PAY UPON RECEIPT, ADDING THE ACTUAL POSTAGE TO YOUR INVOICE.

ANCHORAGE



Nikko Garden, one free drink, Bamboo Room, gold aluminum, 35mm

5.00



Oriental Gardens, one drink, brass, 32mm

8.00



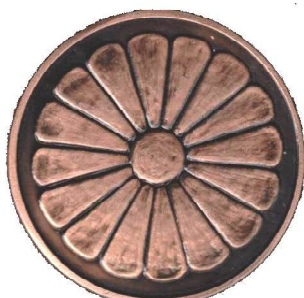
Oriental Gardens, The Eating Place, 1977. Patrick Mint, Copper, 20mm

5.00



Hirohito Visit medal, sterling silver (just under 1 oz. ASW) and bronze (could be copper) As above, bronze

55.00



8.00

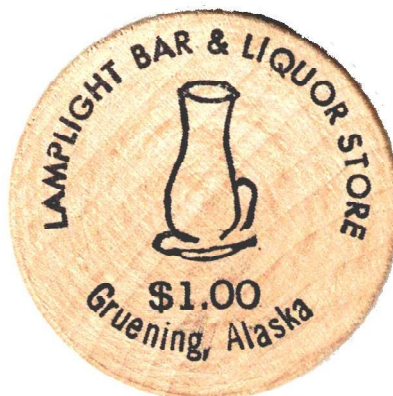


Alaska USO challenge coin. Red, white and blue on brass, 44.5mm.

15.00

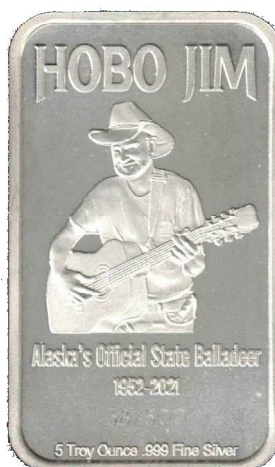


GRUENING



Lamplight Bar & Liquor Store, \$1, black on large wood.

15.00



Hobo Jim 5 oz. silver bar. Alaska's Official State Balladeer, 1952 - 2021, "Snowbird." The serial number is laser etched, 38/500.

295.00



AUCTION TO BE HELD IN FAIRBANKS OCTOBER 18, 2025.

**This is a “mail bid” only auction. Bids accepted until 1PM, October 18.
Current winning bids (not the highest bids) will be emailed to
those with an email on file to give you an opportunity to raise
your bid or bid on lots that do not have a bid.**

**By mail: Alaska Rare Coins, 551-B Second Ave., Fairbanks, AK 99701
By phone: 907-452-6461 By email: alaskararecoins@gmail.com**

ALASKA TOKENS & MEDALS

ESTIMATE

- 262 **Alaska Token: Chatanika**, Bingle Fritz (Thomas Frederick Welch), 50¢, B-1a, 1914-1923. Formerly in partnership with Ed Willis. Previously a rare token until a family hoard hit the market. Welch and Willis have a fascinating history in Alaska 40.
- 263 **Alaska Token: (Ketchikan)**, Nelson Hotel, \$1, NGC VF-35, B-34b 25.
- 264 **Alaska Token: Selavik**, Louis Rotman, 25¢, NGC MS-61, B-2a. Why would anyone slab these? 35.
- 265 **Alaska Token: Seward**, The Northern, 12½¢, native copper, NGC AU-55, very dark. This appears to be B-8bII without the die break. Native copper tokens are always popular 75.
- 266 **Alaska Tokens**. Included are: **Kobuk**, Harry Brown, 50¢, B-1b; **Kotzebue**, Ferguson Stores, 50¢, B-1b; **Nome**, Polet Stores, 10¢ green fiber, B-41d; **Savoonga**, Reindeer Commercial Co., 1¢, B-1a; and **Teller**, Teller Commercial Co., 5¢, B-3a. Five tokens, all XF or better. 50.+
- 267 **Alaska Purchase Centennial Silver & Bronze Medal Set**, 1967. These are large (2½ inches), high relief medals by Medallie Art Co. Seward is on the obverse, the Alaska Purchase Centennial Totem (Russian church, American Eagle, gold panner, locomotive and 49th star) on the reverse. The silver medal is .999+ pure and weighing about 5.25 troy ounces. 260.
- 268 **Tanana Chiefs 1 oz. silver medal with gold relief**. The obverse design is from an old photo of “Group portrait of Athabaskan Chiefs adorned with traditional garments, and ornaments.” It features seven chiefs from Tolovana, Nenana, Koschakat, (3) Tanana and Minto. On a banner across the bottom is “Dena’ Nena’ Henash” (Our Land Speaks). The reverse has “Healthy Strong Unified Tribes” surrounded by hunting and fishing scenes. A very attractive medal made by the Alaska Mint. 55.



- 269 **Tanana Valley Clinic 2 oz. silver bar**. Remember the good ole days when there were film cameras? Silver was an important component of film processing. And not only photography, but also X-rays. Tanana Valley Clinic would recycle their “fix” from processing their X-ray negatives. This could be returned to the Clinic in silver bars (or presumably they could sell the silver. We have no idea how many were made. I believe we have seen one other and there is one on eBay as I write this with an opening bid of \$244.95. This is a very nice, poured bar with light toning. 100.+
- 270 **Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, Christmas/Holiday 1 oz. silver rounds/bars**. Similar to the above, the FDNM would recycle their solution from photo processing (so the story goes), and have silver bars and rounds made for their employees as Christmas presents. The dates are (1987) to 2000 and 2002-2008. Only the 2001 is missing. This is nearly a complete set of 21 one ounce silver rounds and bars. 1,000.

GOLD AWARD MEDAL!!

ESTIMATE



- 271 **Department of Commerce (Gold) Medal for Exception Services**, 1951, awarded to F.H. Wheeler. Wheeler worked for the Civil Aeronautics Authority (predecessor to the FAA) in Nome when he rescued two Eskimo hunters stranded on an ice flow. Heritage has listed only one of these medals, a 1966 version, weighing 51.5 grams, testing 14k. This medal is a bit lighter at 46 grams, presumably 14k. Both sides of the medal were designed by Frank Gasparro. Included is a copy of the Awards Program (printed from the internet). 40mm in diameter. About .85 troy ounces AGW

3,400.

WALRUS IVORY CRIBBAGE BOARD



- 272 **Ivory Walrus Tusk Cribbage Board**. A nicely scrimshawed cribbage board with feathery and snowflake-like etchings. The tusk is 19 inches with a slight curve, about 2.5 inches wide at the large end, tapering down to the tip. Legs on the bottom make it sit level. Sadly, as is with many walrus tusks, this has developed horizontal cracks (vertical cracks are natural). There are two obvious cracks that have been sealed. Without the cracks, retail would be about \$1,500. As is...

800.+

- 273 **Alaska Paper Ephemera**. This bag of items was returned to the estate of Candy Waugaman from the University Archives, and is being sold on behalf of the estate. Too many items to give a full description. Includes travel brochures, highway maps, menus, mining advice, etc. Dates range from about 1906 (maybe earlier) to about 1970. The lot weighs about 7.5 pounds. We recommend examining this in our store.

100.+